

[19 March, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

- (b) the number of such posts lying vacant and since when; and
- (c) the reasons therefor and the steps taken to fill-up such posts urgently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) In the Department of Disinvestment the following posts of Hindi Translators and Hindi Officers have been created:

- 1. Assistance Director — One post
- 2. Junior Hindi Translator — Two posts

There are no PSUs/Attached and Subordinate Offices under the administrative control of the Department of Disinvestment.

- (b) All the posts are filled up.
- (c) Does not arise.

Impact of Rent Control Laws on Urban Development and Housing

***328. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL:** Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the impact of rent control laws on the urban development and housing in the country;
- (b) whether Government propose to make amendments in the law in Delhi and advise/suggest to the State Governments to make changes on the basis of the experience in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details and broad outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (c) Rent Control Legislation in many States has resulted in a freeze of rents, very low returns on investment and difficulty in resuming possession. It has also adversely affected investment in rental housing and caused deterioration of the rental housing stock. On the recommendation of a number of expert bodies, the Government decided to reform the rent legislation in the country in a way that balances the interest of both the landlords and the tenants and also stimulates future

construction. For this purpose, Model Rent Control Legislation was laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament in July, 1992. It was circulated to all the State Governments in July, 1992 itself. The State Governments were advised either to amend their rent laws or to enact new rent legislation on the basis of Model Rent Control Legislation. Most of the State Governments have already initiated action in this regard.

For Delhi a revised act viz. Delhi Rent Act, 1995 has been enacted in place of the Delhi Rent Control Act, 1958 (as amended from time to time). The new Act is yet to be brought into force. The new Act is also proposed to be amended for which Delhi Rent Act (Amendment) Bill, 1997 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 28.7.1997. The new Act, with amendments, will be brought into force after the Amendment Bill is passed by both the Houses of Parliament and assented to by the President.

Funds for 24-Hour NE Channel

***329. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that no fund has been allotted to the new 24-Hour North-East Channel in the current financial year;
- (b) if so, the reasons there for;
- (c) how much funds is expected to be allocated to the 24-Hour North-East channel of Doordarshan in the next financial year 2001-2002;
- (d) of the total amount, how much money will be provided for infrastructure development and how much would be for programme production; and
- (e) whether all the programmes of this channel would be in-house production or would also be given to outside producers?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that no separate funds are provided for running Satellite Channels. During the current financial year, an